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March 26, 2004
(Date)

Rebecca A. Bellas
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application

Applicant: Hirao, et al.

: Art Unit: ----

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Express Mail No.: EV330019750US

: Examiner: ----

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Filed: Herewith

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Title: LUBRICATING BASE STOCK FOR INTERNAL COMBUSTION ENGINE
OIL AND COMPOSITION CONTAINING THE SAME

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT DELETING MULTIPLE DEPENDENCIES

Mail Stop Patent Application
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-identified patent application, kindly enter the following amendments and new claims. This paper accompanies new application transmittal papers.